



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

SLAGHEK ET AL.

Atty. Ref.: 1328-30; Confirmation No. 3776

Appl. No. 10/589,868

TC/A.U. 1791

Filed: October 19, 2006

Examiner: Calandra

For: USE OF PROTEIN HYDROLYSATE DERIVED FROM KERATIN-CONTAINING
MATERIAL IN THE WET-END OF A PAPERMAKING PROCESS

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June 25, 2009

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE

This is responsive to issues raised in the Final Rejection of February 12, 2009 as well as the examiner's comments in the Advisory Action of April 29, 2009 which indicated the Amendment filed April 10, 2009 would be entered. In particular this responds to the examiner's comments in the Advisory Action in item 11 as well as the continuation sheet included with the Advisory Action.

Applicants disagree that the two references can be logically combined and now demonstrate after a more thorough review of the background art and related information (see the concurrently filed Information Disclosure Statement) request that the rejection be withdrawn and that all pending claims allowed.

Specifically responding to the examiner's comments, Hughes et al describe the use of soluble collagen which is obtained via an enzymatic degradation of collagen. The amino acids present in collagen are largely dominated by a relatively small number of amino acids. Evidence thereof can be found in the attached article by Bolboacă et al (*Bulletin USAMV-CN* 2007, 63-64,